





BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL

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# The PORTAL

## THE EMPOWERMENT EDITION

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## BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL

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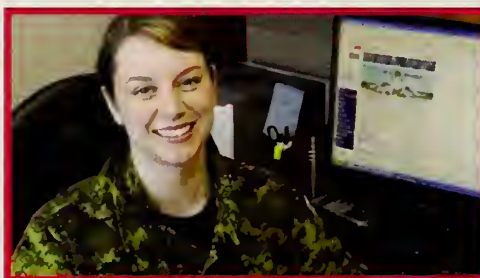
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# BALMORAL HALL,

A UNIVERSITY PREPARATORY SCHOOL,

## INSPIRES GIRLS

TO **EXCEL**, TO **REACH**, TO **LEAD**.



- WE BELIEVE IN A COMPREHENSIVE ALL GIRLS' EDUCATION.
- WE BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE OF CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING.
- WE BELIEVE THAT THE BALMORAL HALL FAMILY IS COMPASSIONATE, PRINCIPLED, AND ENGAGED.
- WE BELIEVE IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONALLY MINDED STUDENTS WHO TAKE ACTION WITH COURAGE AND CONVICTION.

*Seeking Better Things*

# Quest to improve the lives of others never-ending



Every so often, we are incredibly fortunate to welcome an alumna home to Balmoral Hall School who leaves a lasting impression with our students. Profound insights, thoughtful advice, and genuine enthusiasm transform interactions between former students and current ones. Such a visit occurred in March, as Hilary (Carter) Alto '74 delivered this year's keynote address for our Dr. W. Grant Beaton Lecture Series.

As she spoke of her career in engineering, Hilary reflected on her experience as a student; she attended Balmoral Hall from grades 1 to 10.

"Believing I can do anything has stuck with me," she muses.

That attitude has served her well throughout her undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral studies as well as her professional pursuits.

"Engineering taught me to be a little more flexible," adds Hilary. "Things are not going to go your way all the time, so having some flexibility to grow, or change course completely, gave me strength. If I can do engineering ... trust me, I can do anything. Keep it coming!"

Hilary (Carter) Alto '74 completed her doctorate in 2003.

In 1979, Hilary was one of only four women to graduate from University of Manitoba with a bachelor's degree in engineering. Her specialization, civil engineering, led to work in the oil industry after she and her husband, fellow engineer Jussi Alto, moved to Calgary.

She spent much of the 1980s and early '90s caring for their three children before returning to school to complete a Master of Science in geomatics engineering at University of Calgary. Hilary's focus in photogrammetry and remote sensing led to work in breast cancer research after losing a friend to breast cancer during the final year of her master's study, 1996.

Two years later, she returned to University of Calgary to pursue her doctorate in biomedical engineering. At the time, Hilary was the only woman enrolled as a doctoral student with the university's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. After completing her Ph.D. in 2003, she worked for a Calgary-based medical device company for a time before accepting a position with National Research Council Canada (NRC).



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*"Believing I can do  
anything has stuck with me."*

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From 2008-12, she was the project manager for a virtual-reality brain surgery simulator with NRC that earned her team a national Public Service Award of Excellence in 2011.

"Part of my obligation as an engineer is to work for the betterment of society," she explains. "Whatever you do or don't do actually affects everybody around you, and it may affect people you don't even know will be affected by it.

"Sharing expands, hoarding contracts. There is a feeling of expanding your horizons when you help someone else; it's uplifting.

"Everybody is meant to share, I believe. We all have ideas for making things better." Hilary connected with students of all ages during her visit a few months ago. Not only did she answer questions from grades 8 to 12 students during her

lecture, she also took time to visit Kindergarten and Grade 5 classrooms. Resonating with all, her message of hope will not be forgotten soon.

"We are so fortunate at Balmoral Hall School to have so many amazing alumnae willing to share their experiences with our students," notes Lois McGill, Director of Academics. "Demonstrating the importance of not only gaining knowledge but knowing what to do with that knowledge is invaluable."

"Outlining her failures and successes, it was a great opportunity for the girls to hear that from failures come successes to be even more proud of," Jennifer Kirk, Science Department Head, agrees.

Since 2012, Hilary has worked for Statoil as technology plan coordinator.

A love of learning motivates her every day.

"*Meliora Petens* speaks to me. Seeking better things – always learning, always looking for the good, always pushing myself that little bit more to find some way I am able to contribute positively to society for the benefit of all." ■



Hilary Carter (second from left, front) with her Grade 8 classmates.



On their wedding day, Jussi and Hilary sang with fellow engineers.



The Altos at their son's wedding in 2012.



Dr. Alto spent time in our classrooms during her recent visit.

*Meliora Petens*

# Supporting the girls of Balmoral Hall



Connections between alumnae and their alma mater exist in many forms regardless of their time at Balmoral Hall School, Riverbend School, Rupert's Land College, or Havergal College. Throughout our collective 113-year history, some have shared their school pride with spouses, children, and friends. Their sense of community lingers.

The Dr. W. Grant Beaton Lecture Series, established in 2011, is a shining example of this spirit. Louis R. (Bud) Sherman, husband of Elizabeth Ann (Lizanne) (Beaton) Sherman RIV Gr. 11 '49, founded the lecture series in honour of his father-in-law, a former chief of surgery at Misericordia Health Centre. The lecture series enriches the school's university guidance program, fostering an interest in the sciences and relevant applications.

"There seems to be a great deal of interest in the lecture series – perhaps more than I had hoped," Bud says, reflecting on its impact for students, faculty, and staff. "It's growing."

Bud's dedication to strengthening his late wife's connections to the school extends beyond the lecture series, as the inaugural Elizabeth Ann Sherman English Literature Award was presented at Closing Exercises in 2011.

They were married for 54 years. Though Bud and Lizanne met as arts students at University of Manitoba, her memories of Riverbend clearly left a lasting impression. Thanks to Bud's ongoing advocacy of learning opportunities at Balmoral Hall School, her legacy is sure to be celebrated by students for years to come.

"I wanted to do something that was meaningful for the school in commemorating my wife (and her time at the school)," Bud notes. "It's a very exciting, adventurous time to be at a school like this."

When it comes to enhancing their educational experiences, building community, and fostering lifelong connections, our students thrive with the support of many who all have one thing in common.

They believe in the girls of Balmoral Hall School.

"There is nothing better than seeing a project come to life thanks to the vision of a donor," shares Geneviève Delaquis, Director of Advancement. "When that project becomes as meaningful to our donors as to our students, I feel we have embodied the true spirit of philanthropy." ■

*"I wanted to do something that was meaningful for the school in commemorating my wife."*





# MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD



As Chair of Balmoral Hall School's Board of Governors, I work closely with current and former parents as well as alumnae who share the belief that girls belong here. In fact, they not only belong here; they deserve to be here. We owe it to them, and other girls in the community, to offer every opportunity.

As a father of two daughters who attended Balmoral Hall, I also understand the school from the perspective of a parent, and, frankly, it was a bit surprising for us.

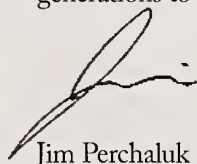
My youngest daughter's knack for visual arts was nurtured at the school with some creative projects and instruction. With her skills in this area identified and developed, she was selected as one of a mere few to be accepted to the visual arts program at Interlochen Arts Academy. She recently completed her sophomore year as a boarding student.

My other daughter graduated from BH this year. While not a true lifer, she spent her formative years at the school, receiving a great education while developing

global awareness. With service trips to Kenya and Poland as well as visits from alumnae from all corners of the world, she has become highly in tune with her possibilities. She is not afraid of what is out there, and one day she may return to the school to share some incredible tales.

I noted that we were a bit surprised by the school. My wife and I expected that our girls would receive a great education at Balmoral Hall; after all, that is what we paid for. Yet, both of our daughters have achieved more than we envisioned at this stage in their lives. We had not bargained to have such mature, independent young women in our midst. That surprise has now been replaced with pride and anticipation for what they will achieve next.

As we consider the school's bright future, we must thank all those who continually exceed expectations, including teachers, administrators, coaches, students, parents, grandparents, alumnae, donors, as well as volunteers. Balmoral Hall School is a special place that inspires special people, and surely this tradition will continue for generations to come.



Jim Perchaluk  
Chair, Board of Governors

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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AND BOARD

THANK YOU TO MR. ERIC JENSEN,  
WHO SERVED ON THE BOARD  
UNTIL SPRING 2014.

# From kilts to combat boots



Crawling through the mud, exhausted, soaking wet, and carrying my rifle, with my instructors screaming at me to hurry to finish an obstacle course during basic training, I thought to myself, “What am I doing here?!”

After graduating from Balmoral Hall School in 2002, I surprised everyone, including myself, by becoming the first alumna to join the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and attend Royal Military College of Canada (RMC). While I have family members with military experience, as a self-proclaimed girly girl the lifestyle was completely foreign to me at that point. What began as a fairly uncertain adventure has resulted in a demanding but rewarding career as an officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), allowing me to proudly serve my country and challenge myself.

After graduating from RMC in 2007 with an Honours degree in political science, and commissioned to the rank of Second Lieutenant, I completed my training and became a qualified Air Logistics Officer specializing in human resources management and administration. I have since been promoted to Lieutenant and then Captain, and I have worked at the tactical, operational,

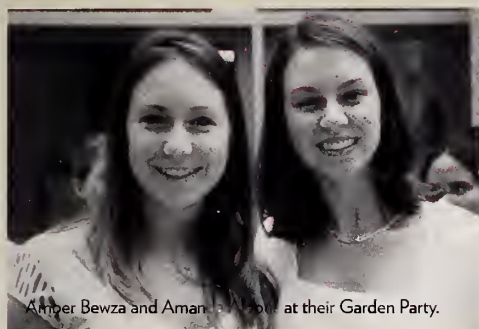
and strategic levels of the CAF. I have completed several postings, ranging from Squadron Administration Officer at 406 Maritime Operational Training Squadron in Shearwater, Nova Scotia to an advisor at the Afghan Air University as part of the NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan.

As a human resources manager and administrator, people are my business; like any organization, nothing in the military gets done without people. Working in this field has shown me the importance of recruiting, retaining, and recognizing the right people while teaching me a great deal about the importance of relationships. As a former alumnae prefect, maintaining a large social and professional network has remained a priority for me, which the military community has fostered. No matter where I am transferred, from Kabul to Ottawa, I am never without support as I regularly run into colleagues or peers, and our friendships pick up from right where they left off.

As a lifer, many influences from my 14 years at Balmoral Hall have aided me greatly in succeeding in this field. My participation in musical theatre, choir, basketball, and the planning of various school events, while



# by Amanda Aldous '02



Amber Bewza and Amanda Aldous at their Garden Party.

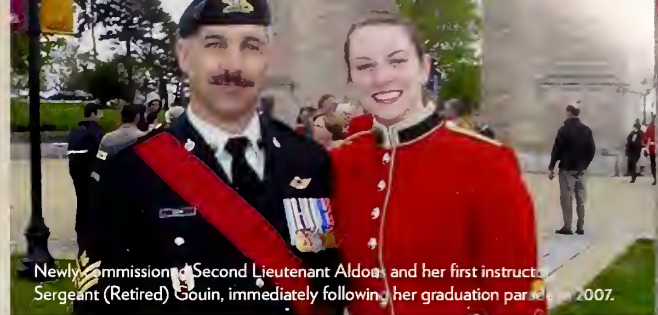
juggling high expectations for academic success, taught me to multi-task, manage time, plan, and prioritize. These skills were essential to my success during military training. Involvement with the debate team and in French classes helped me to confidently communicate in both official languages. Participation in student council and being a prefect helped me develop leadership and management skills that the military has developed further.

Moving from BH to the CAF was less of a transition than one might think – both organizations have green uniforms. From a gender perspective, while the military was traditionally a male-dominated organization, since the 1970s the CAF has worked hard to remove barriers to women. Today about 10,000

women represent an invaluable 12% of the defence team, including pilots, engineers, clearance divers, logisticians, search and rescue technicians, and combat specialists. We are employed at home and deployed abroad alongside our male peers. The CAF is very encouraging of my career advancement, and I am treated respectfully by both superiors and subordinates – men and women alike.

The most empowering part of my career thus far has been deploying to Kabul, Afghanistan from March to November 2012. Alongside a small team of 11 other RCAF members, we worked together with other nations as advisors at the Afghan Air University. Building a relationship with my counterpart – an Afghan man senior to me in both age and rank – gaining his trust and respect, and being able to share my job knowledge with him was an extremely rewarding experience. I truly felt I made a difference.

Working as part of a deployed coalition team with different languages, cultures, processes, and goals while in a high threat environment has its challenges and frustrations. The university was not located on our camp; we travelled by road to



Newly commissioned Second Lieutenant Aldous and her first instructor, Sergeant (Retired) Gouin, immediately following her graduation parade in 2007.



Lieutenant Aldous opening care packages from home while on a deployed exercise in Jamaica in 2008.



Captain Aldous receiving the General Campaign Star (Afghanistan) from the Task Force Commander while in Kabul in 2012.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27 >



# Apples falling near our tree

**F**ew Balmoral Hall School graduates think of returning to their alma mater as faculty and staff throughout their professional lives, but time works in mysterious ways. Whether a few years or a couple of decades pass, some find their way back. They come home.

Spanning more than 50 years, the shared histories of alumnae who currently work and volunteer for the school benefit future generations of BH girls in remarkable ways. Willing to share their expertise, wisdom, and love of learning with students, these women truly represent our enduring school motto and vision, *Meliora Petens* – Seeking Better Things, in all that they do for us. Anything less than their best is unheard of here.

“Everyone here gives 500%,” says Grade 1 Teacher Leslie (Stovel) Sprange ’67. “It’s something in the air in this school, and we try to instill that in our students. I always try to make my students very aware of how fortunate they are to be here even at age six!”

Other alumnae continue to enliven our classrooms, as well. Carissa Nikkel ’02 teaches Middle and Senior School debate, while Claire Dickson ’03 teaches Grade 2 in Dalton House. They are joined by many other alumnae behind the scenes.

Genevieve Cloutier ’03 works in our Advancement Office as alumnae relations coordinator. Lyn Stephen ’57 volunteers in School Archives one day a week. Across campus, Lesley Robertson ’02 works with our boarding students as a residence supervisor. Most recently, Sarah Zacharias ’08 rejoined the Blazers as assistant coach, and Roxanne Ilagan ’08 and Celina Penny ’14 became our summer camp instructors.

Three members of our Board are alumnae: Nancy Cipryk ’86, Joan (Rankin) Richardson ’69, and Laura (Lemon) Wetton ’03.

“I don’t think any of us would be back here if we didn’t believe in everything we do and everything we are working towards,” reflects Ms Nikkel. “We eat, sleep, and breathe our jobs because this is our passion, and hopefully we encourage the girls to have that same passion for whatever they choose.” ■

Ms Nikkel provides feedback as Grade 6 students complete assignments.

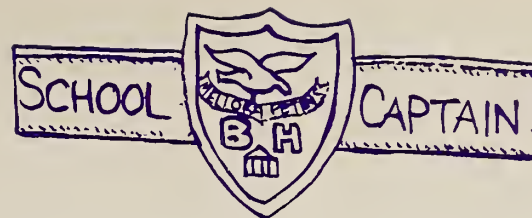


Mrs. Sprange encourages Grade 1 students to do their best.





# Near and far




Our Alumnae Office has been busy connecting with alumnae both at home and beyond Balmoral Hall School on several occasions within the last year.

While we are pleased to consistently host Winnipeg events, we also enjoy reaching out to alumnae all over the world from time to time. From our Lake of the Woods get-together last summer, to receptions in Hong Kong, Seoul, and Vancouver throughout the fall, as well as visits in Calgary, Toronto, and New York in recent months, we met with dozens of alumnae with graduation

dates ranging from the 1930s to the 2010s. These remarkable women shared stories from their school days, exchanged advice, and promised to keep in touch.

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HOSTING OUR NEXT ALUMNAE EVENT IN YOUR CITY?

Contact Genevieve Cloutier '03, Alumnae Relations Coordinator, at (204) 784-1616 or [gcloutier@balmorallhall.net](mailto:gcloutier@balmorallhall.net). ■



Community Service and Green Prefect Yan Qiu (Hazel) Deng '14 with alumna Diane Orihel '95 following her presentation to students in spring 2014. She visited Balmoral Hall School to discuss her work with the Experimental Lakes Area.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO MENTOR A STUDENT?

Whether for an extended period of time or a one-time visit, we welcome your support. You may inspire future leaders in your profession! Job-shadowing provides students considering their career options an opportunity to gain valuable experience.

In partnership with our Alumnae Office, our University Guidance Department seeks these opportunities for our students on an ongoing basis.

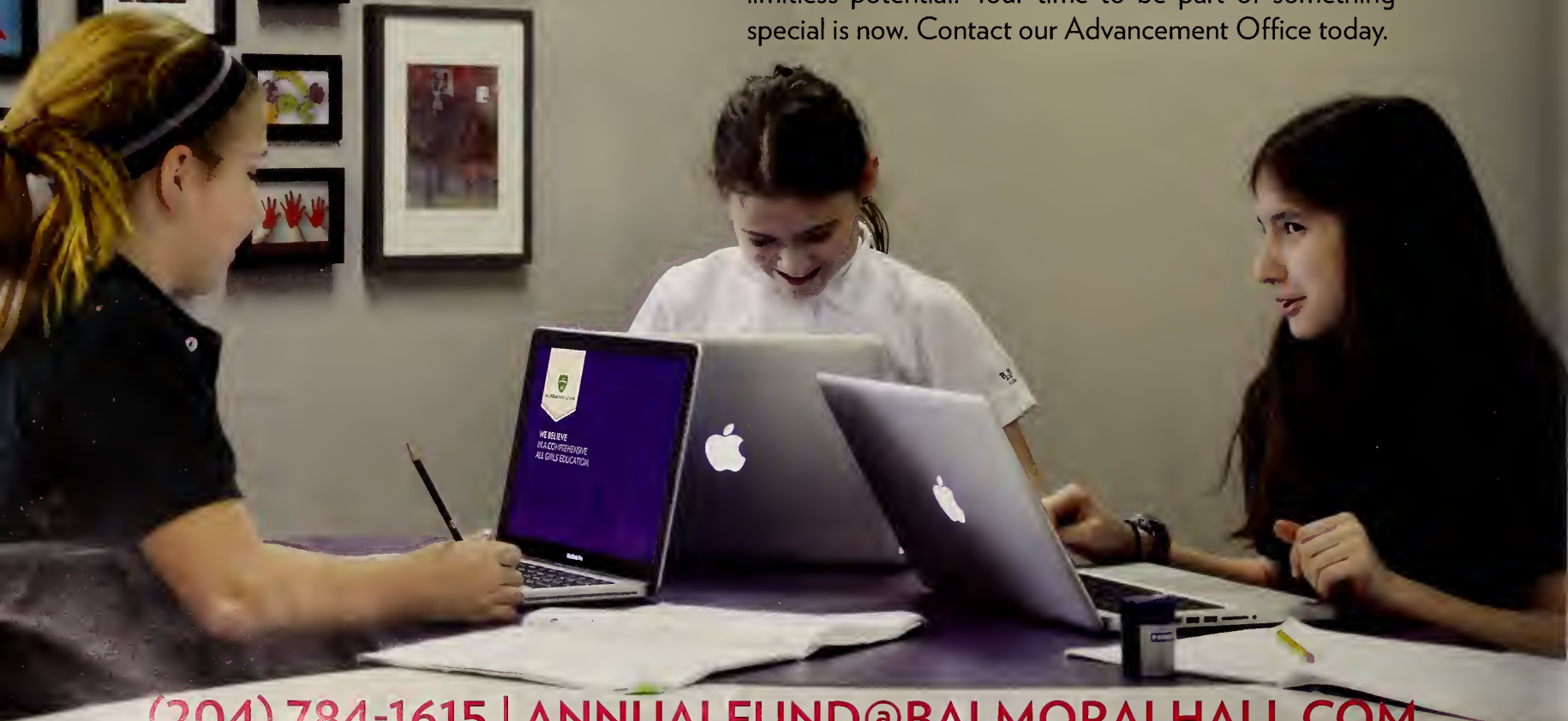
If you are able to mentor a student in grades 8 to 12, please contact our Alumnae Office at [alumnae@balmorallhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmorallhall.com).



# YOU

# make moments possible.

Support for Balmoral Hall School's Annual Fund enriches our students' educational experiences. As they collaborate, they develop a love of learning, a sense of confidence, and a will to succeed. Together, they discover limitless potential. Your time to be part of something special is now. Contact our Advancement Office today.



(204) 784-1615 | [ANNUALFUND@BALMORALHALL.COM](mailto:ANNUALFUND@BALMORALHALL.COM)



# Theatre centre stage for donors

Since 1998, Sifton Family Theatre has been the hub of Balmoral Hall School's performing arts community. Used for assemblies, recitals, and productions, the theatre is one of a few facilities nearly every member of our school community has enjoyed the use of at one time or another. A facility as paramount as this one does not maintain itself, though.

With advances in technology comes a need for regular upgrades to audiovisual equipment. Thanks to the generosity of the Balmoral Hall Parent Association as well as an Annual Fund gift from the Chiu family, the theatre's sound and lighting systems were completely overhauled last summer. Patrons of the recent Senior School production of *Legally Blonde*, Junior School dance recital, and Middle School production of *Orphans* praised the quality production value of each performance. This would not have been possible without the support of those mentioned.

In fact, students Meredith and Gillian Chiu spent much of their summer holidays volunteering for Chuck Robinson, who oversaw the lighting upgrade in 2013. After years of working in the AV booth during musicals and more, the three of them are a remarkable team. The girls are now sharing their AV expertise with their peers.

*"I think my enthusiasm has caught on with some of my friends. We can spark interest in others."*

"It's a great way to feel part of that setting (performing arts), because it's such a close-knit group," notes Meredith Chiu '14.

"I think my enthusiasm (as a technician) has caught on with some of my friends," adds Gillian, who will enter Grade 10 this fall. "We can spark interest in others."

When it comes to BH performing arts, many dedicated individuals are working just beyond the spotlight, as donors, production assistants, and more, to ensure every girl enjoys her time to shine. ■

Meredith (left) and Gillian Chiu at the lighting controls in Sifton Family Theatre.



Middle School students performing a number from *Orphans*.





# YOU

make a difference  
in these girls' lives.

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In furthering financial aid opportunities for students, The Balmoral Hall School Foundation empowers future scientists, care providers, educators, advocates, and entrepreneurs.

With your support for bursaries, we are able to provide annual assistance averaging almost \$5,900 for each eligible student from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Offering up to 50% tuition support is a significant accomplishment, and still there are many students who may not consider attending Balmoral Hall School due to limited financial resources. We are committed to building endowment for bursaries to ensure no student who dreams of the opportunities resulting from a Balmoral Hall education is unable to join the BH family.

Though Balmoral Hall School may be but a stepping stone on their academic and professional paths, we are building a foundation to last a lifetime.

To discuss how you may be able to further the work of The Balmoral Hall School Foundation, contact Tina Alto, Executive Director, at (204) 784-1614 or [talto@balmoralhall.net](mailto:talto@balmoralhall.net).



# Why I give ...

By Terry Fulton Baillie

I chose to provide financial aid for a student at Balmoral Hall School because I loved my years at the school particularly because of the many students I taught.

I wanted to put something back into the school. Many students blossom in an all-girls environment, especially in high school. Having a rural background myself, I chose to give girls from rural areas a chance to come to Balmoral Hall School. Their backgrounds enrich other students' lives. Diversity in the school's student population is of utmost importance, and I see how it affects my former students and current students, too.

Anyone who considers supporting financial aid certainly helps to enrich the lives of girls at Balmoral Hall School. ■

*Terry Fulton Baillie taught mathematics at Balmoral Hall School for 29 years. In 2006, she created The Terry Fulton Baillie Scholarship Fund to offer financial aid to a new or returning rural Senior School student in need of bursary assistance. The inaugural award was presented in 2013, and the fund value is more than \$88,000 currently.*



## HONOURING MISS LUCAS

Miss Nellie Lucas spent most of her career working at Rupert's Land and Balmoral Hall as secretary to the Headmistress and registrar. Loved by all, several students remained in contact with her long after their graduation. Upon her passing in 2003 at age 94, these alumnae established a fund in her name.

In 10 years, the fund has grown steadily because of their dedication. However, the fund has not reached a level at which financial aid is grantable. That will soon change thanks to the support of an anonymous alumna; all donations to The Nellie Lucas Fund in 2014 will be matched dollar-for-dollar (to a maximum of \$6,000).

This support will ensure an annual award is presented in Miss Lucas's name forever. Increase the impact of your gift – donate now to double it! Please visit [balmorallhall.com/give](http://balmorallhall.com/give) or call (204) 784-1616 today.

# The best property to donate: cash versus listed securities

By DeWayne Osborn, CGA, CFP, Lawton Partners

**W**ithout a doubt, cash and listed securities are the most common property used for making planned gifts in Canada. For the purpose of this article, listed securities are mutual funds, segregated funds, stock, rights, warrants, and so forth that are listed on prescribed stock exchanges in Canada and around the world. While cash may seem to be the obvious choice, why are gifts of listed securities becoming so common? The answer lies in the fact that financial advisors are becoming more and more aware of the tax advantages of using this type of property for a gift to Balmoral Hall School as well as for managing the financial affairs of their client (the donor).

So what are the tax advantages of using listed securities? When an individual or corporation transfers ownership of an appreciated listed security to a charity such as Balmoral Hall, the increased value (gain) is not subject to taxation. In other words, there is no tax on the gain when the property is transferred to BH. What is the catch? The securities must be transferred in-kind. In other words, do not sell them first and donate the cash proceeds of the sale.

So which is better to donate: cash or listed securities? Assuming the individual donor has already donated more than \$200 in the year, the tax credit in Manitoba for either property is 46.4%. The following example illustrates the tax advantage of donating \$10,000 of cash as opposed to listed securities.

CASH	SECURITIES
■ Donation amount to BH: \$10,000	■ Donation amount to BH (securities current value): \$10,000
■ Tax savings on donation (46.4%): \$4,640	■ Tax savings on donation (46.4%): \$4,640
■ Total tax savings/avoided: \$4,640	■ Cost of purchasing securities: \$2,000
	■ Capital gains income (tax due on 50% of gain): \$4,000
	■ Tax savings on taxable portion of gains (50%) at highest tax bracket (46.4%): \$1,856
	■ Total tax savings/avoided (\$4,640 + \$1,856): \$6,496
<b>Total Cost of Donation: \$5,360</b>	<b>Total Cost of Donation: \$3,504</b>

So does the story end here? Not if the donor is a privately held company. These corporations are commonly used by advisors for tax, estate, and risk-management planning for their high-net-worth clients. Using capital dividends to pay the shareholder (donor), further tax savings are available. When you compare the numbers, it is no small wonder that more and more financial advisors are recommending using corporations to donate listed securities.

For further details about the tax advantages of donating listed securities, or the contents of this article, contact DeWayne Osborn at 1-888-944-1144 ext. 256 or [dosborn@lawtonpartners.ca](mailto:dosborn@lawtonpartners.ca). ■

*DeWayne Osborn is General Manager, Chief Compliance Officer, and in-house expert on charitable and planned giving at Lawton Partners.*





In support of all girls  
education, please accept  
my gift to the students of  
Balmoral Hall School.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ One-time gift

☐ \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$100

☐ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Monthly

☐ \$100/month ☐ \$50/month ☐ \$25/month

☐ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month

starting on \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/yy)

I would like to support:

☐ Head's Fund (unrestricted: for school improvements)

☐ Centennial Endowment Fund (scholarships and financial aid)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_




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## MELIORA PETENS LEGACY SOCIETY

RUBY (BENIDICKSON) ASHDOWN RIV GR. 11 '39

Aikins House is the heritage hub of Balmoral Hall School as a venue for receptions, reunions, and meetings. Thanks to the commitment of Ruby (Benidickson) Ashdown RIV Gr. 11 '39 to its lasting legacy, it will remain as such. For that we are grateful.

As an alumna of Riverbend School, Ruby dedicated so much throughout her life to preserving Aikins House as the heart and soul of Balmoral Hall School, as reported in our 2012/13 *Annual Review*.



Led by her and Diane Sidebottom Roulston '80 as Heritage Committee Co-Chairs, a complete restoration revived Aikins House with its former lustre just in time for our Centennial Reunion. More than 10 years later, the house still reflects her passion for the school's history. In Ruby's words, "Aikins House is to look like she has her party dress on." Now, she looks as beautiful as ever, as many visitors attested during this spring's Doors Open Winnipeg event.

A member of our Meliora Petens Legacy Society, upon her passing in October 2012 Ruby left a gift for the school's Aikins House Fund, keeping memories of Riverbend's "White House" alive.

Her legacy will endure through her final gift to the school. Already, that commitment is paying dividends. Renovations to the kitchen are scheduled to take place over the summer thanks to her "White House" bequest. Cupboards, counters, fixtures, flooring, and appliances will be installed to suit the home. Visit us in the fall for a tour!

We invite others to consider a gift to Balmoral Hall School that is truly meaningful to them.

[BALMORALHALL.COM/GIVE](http://BALMORALHALL.COM/GIVE)

Please consider a donation to Balmoral Hall School this year. We encourage all donors to consult with their financial advisor and family members when making gifts. For more information about how you are able to help the girls of Balmoral Hall, contact our Advancement Office at (204) 784-1615 or [annualfund@balmoralhall.com](mailto:annualfund@balmoralhall.com).



Give

# Alumnae Association celebrates centennial

October 8, 2014 marks the centennial anniversary of our Alumnae Association. Founded at Havergal College, that first meeting drew “a goodly attendance of enthusiastic Havergalians” (*Havergal College Magazine*, 1914/15). As chosen by her peers, Annie (Crowe) Collum became the first president of the association.

The inaugural function, a luncheon, was held in December of that year at Fort Garry Hotel. Uniting alumnae with shared interests such as music, literature, drama, art, and athletics, “circles” met regularly. On the occasion of her marriage, the association presented Annie with a gold brooch set in diamonds; it had been engraved with the arms of Havergal.

Following the amalgamation of Rupert’s Land (formerly Havergal) and Riverbend, she gifted her pin to Balmoral Hall School in 1951. From our 1987 Alumnae Reunion to our Centennial Reunion in 2002, it was worn with pride by successive presidents. Since then, it has remained on display in School Archives.

Presidents now wear a replica of that pin as a reminder of its inheritance. As the association has continually evolved throughout the last 100 years, members have been responsible for a number of important initiatives in all that time. From welcoming recent graduates to preserving the history of Aikins House as a Heritage Committee, alumnae from various eras have remained connected to their alma mater.

The association represents our collective history. While presidents are entrusted with keeping that spirit of kinship alive, we encourage you to share in that effort. Attend Balmoral Hall School’s next alumnae get-together in your area, or visit us anytime! ■



## NANCY CIPRYK '86

Earlier this year, Balmoral Hall School appointed Nancy Cipryk '86 as President of our Alumnae Association. As such, she brought greetings to 2014 graduates at this spring’s Doll Assembly. Nancy is a member of our Board of Governors, serving as Advancement Chair, as well.

With strong ties to our community, her family includes three generations of BH girls. Her daughters, Lura and Natalie, are Junior School students. Both she and her mother, Gail (Burrows) Cipryk Gr. 11 '56, were lifers.

“As much as the school has changed for the better over the years, when my husband and I enrolled our daughters here I knew they would feel right at home; I always have,” says Nancy, who considers some of her former classmates her closest friends to this day.

Self-employed, she also serves on FortWhyte Alive’s board of trustees in addition to the foundation council of Seven Oaks General Hospital.



# Launching Online Archives

In 2013, our Alumnae Office and School Archives collaborated to introduce the first phase of a project to digitize the history of Havergal, Riverbend, Rupert's Land, and Balmoral Hall with the launch of Yearbooks Online, a fully flippable and searchable set of yearbooks dating back to the early 1900s.

With the help of many, we are now excited to launch the second phase – Online Archives! Volunteers, including students

and alumnae, have spent countless hours scanning thousands of photos from our archival collection to bring to our BH family an accessible online collection, and there is much more to come.

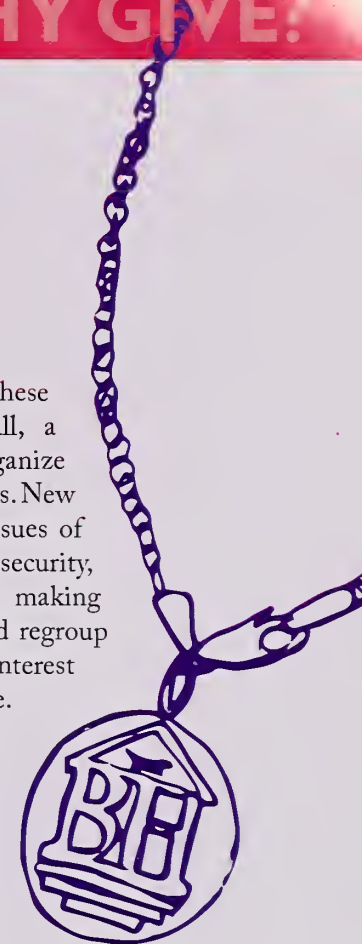
"History is being made every day at Balmoral Hall School," notes School Archivist Lyn Stephen '57. "With many cameras that history is being recorded from candid scenes of school life to a range of organized activities and special events in all their variety.

"In order to make these images available to all, a system is required to organize them in meaningful ways. New technology addresses issues of collection, preservation, security, and swift, easy access, making it possible to group and regroup images in response to interest or need and much more. Herein lies the future means of preserving our past."

Note that Online Archives will be updated continually. Please visit often!

**Learn more at [balmoralhall.com/alumnae](http://balmoralhall.com/alumnae) today.**

If you have a photo you would like to submit to School Archives, contact our Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1616 or [alumnae@balmoralhall.com](mailto:alumnae@balmoralhall.com).



The collection is growing thanks to volunteers.



# Crestlines

## 2010s

### KADY EVANYSHYN '13

Very excited to announce that I will be attending the Classic Lyric Arts program this summer in the historic Périgord region of France!

### PAIGE DANOWSKI '10

I just graduated from Wilfrid Laurier with an Honours degree in communication studies with a minor in history.

### MIRANDA THORNE '10

I was recently promoted to the role of consultant in the policy and procedures department at Vancity. Vancity is a credit union with a strong focus on community and social development, so this will be a great opportunity to kick-start my career in social finance and cooperatives. In September, I will complete the final term of my degree at University of Economics, Prague. While on academic exchange, I hope to travel within Europe and further explore the cooperative movement at its origin. When I return I would like to pursue an internship with an association that runs cooperative projects overseas to gain experience.

## 2000s

### ASHLEY FREDETTE '09

During the week of April 23-27, I performed my grad recital and graduated from Canadian Mennonite University with my Bachelor of Music, majoring in performance and music education. Next year, I'm going to start the Education After-Degree program at U of M. I'm very excited!

### ROXANNE ILAGAN '08

I am officially done my B.Ed. I am planning to bring my resume to BH and apply to be on the substitute list!

### TAYLER VAN DENAKKER '08

I graduated from St. Cloud State University in 2012 with a B.Sc. in biomedical sciences. I ended my hockey career as a scholar athlete. In 2013, I was accepted into medical school. I am now in my second year as an Honours student and am enjoying every moment of it! I would like to give a shout-out to my fellow BH hockey teammates! Miss you girls!

### LEAH (WONG) GUENTHER '04

The last few months have been relatively eventful. In June 2013, I presented at the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society conference. My research team (composed of orthopaedic surgeons, clinical researchers, and engineers) and I received the Founders' Medal for the best paper and oral presentation at the conference, which was held in Winnipeg, making it extra sweet! Shortly after, a paper that I co-authored won an international award for our failure analysis of ceramic-on-ceramic total hip replacements. In October 2013, I obtained my M.Sc. in mechanical engineering with a specialization in orthopaedic product development research. I am currently employed by the Orthopaedic Innovation Centre as a biomedical engineering specialist and project manager in Winnipeg. I spend my days solving problems of different sizes and giving vicious high-fives. When I'm not working, I make futile attempts to catch up on life (i.e. laundry), while trying to limit the number of "Kijiji projects" my husband takes on (47). Current methods are ineffective. We are looking into buying more spare time, or building a bigger garage.

### VALÉRIE VANBIERVLIET '02

When I left BH, I came back to Belgium to start medical school at Ghent University, and that's where I still live. I graduated with Honours in 2010. During this period I did part of my internship in Lisbon, Portugal and in Cuenca, Ecuador. Just amazing experiences! In 2010 I became an anaesthesiology resident. It's a five-year training program during which I've been working at Ghent University Hospital and partially in Antwerp. I have one more year to go and I'm all done. I also want to get my degree in intensive care medicine, so I'm adding on a year. Besides all the working, travelling is still my passion. It all started with a trip I took to Cambodia to volunteer at an orphanage, which was just incredible! Ever since, I can't just sit at home during vacation, so I try to go places. Every trip has been memorable for some reason, and strange things just seem to happen to me. (I got stuck in Bolivia. I was asked to translate for the narcotics brigade in Jordan. I almost got stuck in Spain during a national strike.) Last year, I topped it off with the trek up to Mount Everest base camp, and now I'm all excited about going up more mountains! I'm going on my first African adventure, and we're planning to trek up Mount Kenya. Very excited!



## RAIME ANNE GOLDBERG '02

My condolences to Jen's family, and may the angels help Jennifer Reimer '02 in heaven. She is a truly beautiful soul. A magical former BH classmate.

## ASHLEIGH SPRANGE '01

In May 2014, I graduated from University of Manitoba's Faculty of Medicine, where I earned my Bachelor of Science in medicine for research in the area of pediatric orthopaedic surgery, as well as my Doctor of Medicine. I begin a residency in July for rural family medicine in Dauphin, Manitoba.



## AYNSLEY BALDWIN '99

The film I have been working on as editor, associate producer, and location sound recordist for the better part of the last four years, *The Backward Class*, has finally had its world premiere. April 28 was our first of four screenings at Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival in Toronto, where we were honoured with the Audience Choice Award out of 197 films screened. A big thank you to all my fellow BH classmates, alumnae, and teachers who have offered their love and support for this project over all these years, as well as to Genevieve Cloutier '03 and the Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association – particularly our Vancouver contingent – for the continued doses of encouragement along the way. It has meant so very much to me. You'll be the first to know of any future Vancouver or Winnipeg screenings!

## 1990s

### ANDREA RUSH-SIRSKI '98

We are happy to share our baby news. One more little girl for the awesome BH family!



### RACHEL SCHIPPER '96

My husband Mat Goldstein and I welcomed our daughter, Anya Ariel Goldstein, on January 22, 2014.

### ALLYSON COOPER '96

I just completed my thesis defence for my Master of Nursing degree, specializing in nursing education, from University of Victoria. My thesis was on high-fidelity simulation education for neonatal nurses. This is a topic that I am passionate about, as it is such an innovative method of teaching! It allows for practical, hands-on training, which is especially useful in a clinically based profession such as nursing. I have been working on my graduate degree for the last four years. There were a few hurdles along my journey. The first was that my husband, Jeff, and I welcomed our beautiful daughter Peyton into our family three and a half years ago. She is a delight and a constant source of amusement. The second hurdle I faced was that I dislocated and tore all of the ligaments in my knee. As a consequence, I had to be off from

work for 18 months and undergo knee reconstruction surgery and intense physiotherapy. I am happy to report I have fully recovered! I completed my graduate degree through distance education and continue to live just outside of Winnipeg in Lorette. We love the community and family atmosphere that a small town provides, while having the convenience of all that Winnipeg offers!



# Crestlines

## REBECCA (MCKEEVER) SOBOTKIEWICZ '94

My husband and I recently welcomed a baby girl into our family. Brooke Joy Sobotkiewicz was born January 22, 2014.



## ALLISON BOULTON '93

Living in China, your longest vacation of the year is the Spring Festival (New Year) celebration. I knew I was going back to Dubai to visit friends, including Anna AbouZeid '01! However, I was also in need of an adventure. During my M.B.A. I had an Iranian classmate, and in Shanghai I cycle past the Iranian Consulate on a regular basis. The plan was hatched! I spent 12 sunny February days travelling in the heart of Iran from bustling Tehran to historical Shiraz and back up through quieter Yazd and culturally and artistically breath-taking Esfahan. The food, the scenery, the history, and the

friendliness of the people touched me at every turn, especially when their never-ending hospitality meant being awakened on the train by my cabinmates insisting I share their breakfast or a group of teenage girls first bombarding me with questions about being a Westerner and then serenading me with a traditional song. Incredible Iran!



## 1980s

### JENN BUECHEL '88

I recently became head of product management for services at SunEdison in San Francisco, which is one of the largest solar energy companies in the world. I looked a long time for a role that was the right mix of mission,



### SUZANNE ALLEMEIER '87

Michelle Ball, Heather (Cunningham) Challmie, Kim Barnsley, and I (Class of 1987) got together recently to catch up.

technology, and talent, and I finally feel like I've found it. During the same month that I started at SunEdison, I also became a board member of D-Rev (Design Revolution). This non-profit is staffed by Stanford Design School engineers who create and distribute medical devices for people who make less than \$4 a day. Their current products are an artificial knee and an infant phototherapy lamp for jaundice treatment, which have both achieved distribution in South America, Asia, and Africa. I live with my husband and two kids, Jack and Lucie, just outside of San Francisco. By coincidence, the kids have gravitated to all the Canadian sports they could find — hockey, lacrosse, and skiing. Next on the list is curling ... as soon as they find a decent sheet. Much love to the girls from '88.

## 1970s

### BRIGITTA (BEREZNAVY) TAYLOR '75

I joined the police force, which was very exciting for me! I am still singing and dancing in my chorus, Circle of Harmony.

## 1960s

### JUDY CLOUGH '66

Eva Newman and I met up recently in Barcelona for a three-day reunion dedicated to touring the city, seaside lunches, and getting caught up on the news. I live in Catalonia, and Eva was on her way to Malaga to spend a few months studying Spanish.



## NORA (BAKER) LAVOIE GR. 11 '62

I arrived at Balmoral Hall by chance when I was five, because the public school said I was too young for Grade 1. I can still picture my first friend on the first day, standing in the doorway of our classroom in the Red House in her grey tunic. I stayed for 11 years and made many lifelong friends.

Every summer, we all wrote each other, from near and far. I kept every word written to me, including notes written in class, because I have never been able to throw away such confidences.

Recently, I started returning my childhood mail by hand to all those with whom I was still in touch. I had come to view the letters as belonging to the writers themselves or for those fortunate enough to have children to them and theirs.

So the presentations were formally offered and well received, and I only regretted not having been able to make them sooner. It was in that spirit of respect and discretion that I was assisted by the wonderful Genevieve Cloutier '03, our alumnae relations coordinator, who helped me find most of those with whom I had lost touch.

She understood that my intent was to reconnect my old friends with their younger selves and not necessarily with my older self, but I am deeply grateful for the unsolicited response which I received.

Everyone who responded did so in character, not having reinvented or redecorated themselves, vindicating my original perceptions of their essential selves.

And they all also responding touchingly lovingly — not only remembering me as I would wish to be remembered, but bothering to recount in detail my kindnesses to them.

And so I send my love to all of you, hoping life has been kind, knowing life can be cruel, and urging you to enjoy what remains.

## RETIREMENTS



Balmoral Hall School faculty Carolyn Graham, Rhonda Smith, Joanie Sheps, and Leslie (Stovel) Sprange '67 retired this spring. They will be missed by students and colleagues alike. Our thanks for all they have done!



Former Junior School Assistant Joan Christie retired in December 2013 after 23 years of tireless service, working above and beyond expectation in her contact with parents, students, faculty, and staff. She plans to enjoy travel as well as the company of family and friends.



# In Memoriam

## 2000s

### JENNIFER REIMER '02

Jennifer passed in her sleep in April 2014.

## 1970s

### KAREN ANN RICHARDSON '74

It is with tremendous sorrow that we announce the sudden passing of Karen on September 22, 2013 at her home in Victoria, BC. She was born in Winnipeg and attended Balmoral Hall School before she graduated from St. John's-Ravenscourt and studied nursing at the University of Manitoba. Childhood summers at Lake of the Woods, picnics at Bunkie, and dancing with her brothers at the Yacht Club dance were some of her most cherished memories. Karen married Frank Somers in 1978, and they lived in Toronto briefly before relocating to Winnipeg where their four children were born. In 1995 the family moved to Victoria. She considered her family to be her greatest achievement. She was profoundly proud of her four children and loved them deeply.

### ALLISON WESTMAN '72

## 1960s

### NANCY LITTLE '66

Nancy passed suddenly on May 2, 2013. Nancy was active in the community, and she lived a rich life full of wide and varied activities. She travelled extensively with life partner Doug, sailing to Florida and the Bahamas from Parry Sound. Nancy grew up in Winnipeg and received her Bachelor of Arts from McGill University and went on to earn a Bachelor of Library Science from University of Alberta. She worked at University of Manitoba, was the chief librarian of the Canadian Wheat Board Library, and finished her library career at UTLAS in Toronto before heading off on her sailing adventures.

### SUSAN (PEERS) SPENCER '60

*Submitted by Suzanne Evans '62*  
Susan passed away in 2003. Susan was very smart, a model student, and an amazing basketball player. The last time I saw her I knew she wasn't well, and I suspected it was our last visit. As an older cousin, she had tried to provide guidance for me, and I am sure there were times when she was as exasperated

with my behavior as the staff at school were. She told me how fondly she remembered her years at BH. What a refuge the school had been for her.

## 1950s

### REESA (RIESENBERG) BECKELMAN GR. 11 '57

At age 73, of St. Louis Park, Reesa died July 15, 2013 in Minnesota. Reesa will be remembered for her quick wit, radiant smile, and delicious treats.

### ALYSON THOMAS GR. 11 '57

Alyson passed away in late March 2014 in New York.

### SUSAN (CARNEGIE) MERRY GR. 11 '55

Susan passed away peacefully at her home in Collingwood, surrounded by her adoring family, on December 28, 2012. Sue was a prefect and Glen Gairn house head at Balmoral Hall. After graduating from Trinity College, U of T, in 1960 and obtaining her ARCT in piano, she went on to earn a degree in library science. Sue and Crick met on a T-Bar at Osler Bluff Ski Club and married in 1964. They moved to Ottawa in

'67, returning to Toronto to begin their family in '70. In '99, Crick and Sue retired to "the Barn" in Collingwood.

## 1940s

### ELIZABETH (HICKMAN) YAKMISSION RLS GR. 11 '49

Elizabeth passed on June 28, 2013. She was born in Winnipeg in 1932 and lived in River Heights her entire life. She was very proud of being a Winnipegger. She was a true prairie girl. She attended University of Manitoba and completed law school in 1959, being one of few women at that time to graduate from law in Manitoba. It was at university that she met the love of her life, Jacob, whom she married in 1954 and shared her life with until his death in 1984.

### GAY (NEWMAN) FOSTER RLS GR. 11 '49

Gay Foster passed away on September 26, 2013 at age 81. She was a model of perseverance and strength as she lived the last 18 years with various ongoing cancers. As she courageously endured her setbacks, she continued to pass along an ever-loving and ever-giving spirit to her family.



Born in Selkirk, Gay was the youngest daughter of Judge Frank and Mary Newman. After her primary school years were spent in Selkirk, she attended Rupert's Land College in Winnipeg, where as a boarder she made many lifelong friends. She became a radiology technician at Winnipeg General Hospital. She spent her early years playing tennis and badminton, where she met Art, her loving husband of 53 years. Children Christine and John followed shortly thereafter.

### **LORNA (MCCARTHY) BERG RIV '49**

Lorna passed away on July 15, 2013 after a brief illness. She was born in Winnipeg on December 22, 1931. She started her working career at Great West Life and later joined the staff at the Winnipeg Football Club for many years during the Bud Grant/Ken Ploen era. She made lifelong friends among staff, players and executives of the Bombers. Later in life, Lorna and a partner started Allegro Travel in the Grain Exchange Building and built it into a thriving operation. During the years at Allegro, Lorna travelled the world. She was a raconteur and her stories of her travels and years with the Bombers were fascinating and grew better with the years.

### **FRANCES (ABBOTT) GUNN RIV GR. 11 '48**

Fran was born in Winnipeg in 1932. She started her education at Tuxedo School, then on to Riverbend and finally University

of Manitoba, attaining a B.Sc. in dietetics. Fran's career as dietician took her to Minneapolis, Bermuda, Toronto, and back to Winnipeg, where she was a dietician at Winnipeg General Hospital. Fran was married in 1959 to John Gunn. After four years in their house in Tuxedo they moved to Vancouver along with their three children Libby, Shelagh, and Alex. A year later, Cynthia was born. Fran died in hospital on February 3, 2014.

### **JANET (CAMERON) MATTHEWS RLS '48**

Janet passed on April 1, 2008. She spent her early years in Winnipeg, moving to Dauphin in 1952 following her marriage to Cliff Matthews, who established a law practice there. She nursed at the Dauphin General Hospital for many years. She started nursing at the municipal hospitals in 1973 and was assistant head nurse on the polio ward when in 1978 she suffered a major stroke at the age of 48. Through sheer determination and grit she overcame the debilitating effects of her stroke, moving to Lorette to live with her daughter and son-in-law in 1980. She lived with their family for 25 years before moving to Golden Links Lodge in 2005.

### **BETH (SOUTHAM) RIGLIN RLS '48**

Beth passed away quietly on July 29, 2012 at the age of 82 years. Beth was born in Pierson, MB. She lived with her family in Newdale and later finished

high school and normal school in Winnipeg. She moved to Saltcoats, SK to teach in 1950 and met Pete, the love of her life, and in 1954 they moved to the farm. Farming, homemaking, and being a wife and mother became her profession. She always wanted to know what her grandchildren were up to and enjoyed their graduations, weddings, and accomplishments. In the last few years, she was delighted with the birth of nine great-grandchildren.

### **ROSEMARY WATKINS RLS '48**

Rosemary died peacefully at St. Vincent Hospital on April 28, 2013. Born in Surrey, England in 1930, Rosemary and her family travelled to Canada in 1938. She earned several university degrees, working early in her career as a librarian and later as an executive secretary. The Anglican Church was important in her life.

### **NORMA (MACLENNAN) STENHOUSE RLS '47**

Norma passed away on August 9, 2012 in her 83rd year. Norma is now with her late husband Jim, her sister Jean (MacLennan) Jolliffe RLS Gr. 11 '43, and her parents Norman Henry and Ethel. A longtime resident of Weston, ON, she became one of the most dedicated, longest-serving members of the Humber River Regional Hospital Volunteer Association. She was appointed a life member of the hospital foundation.

### **MARGARET (BROWN) MORROW RLS GR. 11 '46**

Margaret passed on April 9, 2013.

### **MARJORY-LYNN (MCINTYRE) RICH RIV GR. 11 '46**

Marjory-Lynn of Aurora, Colorado died on February 20, 2014. Born in Winnipeg on April 1, 1929, she is survived by her husband David F. Rich, children and grandchildren, and her sister Winnifred Ruth (McIntyre) Davies (RIV Gr. 11 '41). She was predeceased by her brother Dr. Donald McIntyre and her sister Mary Elizabeth (McIntyre) Malmaeus (RIV Gr. 11 '32).

### **LOUISE (PELLENZ) ALLTON RLS GR. 11 '45**

Louise passed away at age 85 on January 1, 2014, a longtime resident of Westerville, Ohio. She was born on February 10, 1928 in Winnipeg and graduated from Rupert's Land. She is predeceased by her husband Wayne Allton, Jr.

### **MARGARET JAMIESON RIV GR. 11 '44**

Margaret passed away December 27, 2013. A graduate of Riverbend School for Girls and University of Manitoba, she taught sewing for many years in Fort Garry and St. James school divisions. She is survived by her sister Norma (Jamieson) Riley RIV Gr. 11 '45 of North Vancouver.

# In Memoriam

## **JOYCE DOREEN LALLY RLS '44**

Joyce passed away on January 27, 2013 at the age of 87 years. An only child, Joyce was born and grew up in Wainwright, AB. She left in 1941 to attend Rupert's Land in Winnipeg. She graduated from University of Manitoba in 1947 with a B.Sc. in home economics. Joyce worked for several years as a dietitian. She then embarked on a different career, acting as secretary to the chairman of the Montreal Forum, home of the Canadiens. Later, she returned to hospital dietetics until her retirement in 1987. Joyce had many interests, such as bridge, travelling, and staying active. Volunteering was an important part of her life.

## **JEAN (GARDINER) BOECKER RIV GR. 11 '43**

Jean passed away May 8, 2009.

## **BARBARA JEAN (BONNICK) HARVEY RLS GR. 11 '42**

Barb passed away peacefully on June 6, 2011 after a brief time in palliative care. She enjoyed every one of her 86-plus years. Born in Toronto, raised in Winnipeg, Barb met and married her only love, Harold S. Harvey (Hy) in '46 after she had graduated from nursing.

In '66, Barb moved with her family to West Vancouver where she re-invented herself as a bookseller. She retired in 1982, but never stopped giving of herself until her illness prevented further service.

## **LORENA (MCDONALD) FAIR RLS GR. 11 '41**

Lorena passed away peacefully in Peterborough, ON on August 13, 2013 in her 90th year. Loving wife of over 50 years to the late Roy. Beloved mother of Gary and Don and his wife Margaret.

## **PEGGY (JACKSON) SEED RLS '40**

Peggy passed away in Toronto on August 15, 2013. Born in Winnipeg, Peggy attended Rupert's Land, Gordon Bell High School, and University of Manitoba (diploma in interior design, 1938). A life-long learner, she graduated at age 50 with a B.A. in fine art from University of Toronto. Peggy and Jack married in Winnipeg in 1944. They lived in Halifax during Jack's years in the Navy and somehow made ends meet with two young kids while Jack finished at Osgoode and began practising law. Together they designed the first split-level house in Oakville in 1951. There they made many lifelong friends, along with those in Toronto and Meaford from later years.

## 1930s

### **ALICE (VEALS) HURD RLS '39**

Alice passed away peacefully at the age of 92 on September 9, 2013. Alice was born in Darlingford, MB. She completed her education at Rupert's Land, and she went on to hold several clerical positions until her retirement and marriage to Don in 1974. Alice and Don were married for 29 years. They travelled extensively for pleasure, visiting friends around the world, as well as in association with Don's work as a geologist. Music was a very important part of Alice's life. She valued community and philanthropy, supporting numerous organizations and institutions.

### **MARCIA (ROBLIN) (SALE) COUSENS RLS GR. 11 '39**

Marcia passed away at age 90 on June 25, 2013. She was born in Winnipeg. A gifted designer, Marcia studied at University of Manitoba. She married John Sale shortly after the Second World War. They were transferred to Brussels. Unfortunately, the marriage didn't last. While living in Belgium, she met and married the love of her life, Bryce Cousens. When he retired, they moved to England. Bryce passed away from a long illness in 1976. Marcia

returned to Canada after a few years, settling in Barrie, ON.

### **CATHERINE (BINGEMAN) STEVENSON RIV GR. 11 '39**

Catherine passed away peacefully on February 5, 2013. She was born in Winnipeg on October 1, 1922. She graduated as a dietician from University of Manitoba, where she met her future husband John Stevenson on the steps of the biology building. They were married for 61 years. Kit and John moved to Vancouver in 1947, settling in West Vancouver in 1954. They raised five children.

### **CYNTHIA (BENNEST) BURBIDGE RLS '37**

Cynthia passed in her 93rd year in Knowlton, QC on February 22, 2013.

### **MARY (LAIRD) MACDOUGALD RLS '33**

Mary passed away on February 20, 2013 in Perth, Scotland at the ripe old age of 97 and three-quarters. She had lived in Dorset for the past 50 years and before that in India, Pakistan, and Canada, where she was born. Mary's husband, Dougie, was in the Canadian Army. They had four sons and a daughter, Jane Mary (MacDougald) Anstice '61.



## FROM KILTS TO COMBAT BOOTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

### BETTY G. (FOSTER) WILCOX RLS GR. 11 '33

Betty passed away peacefully on November 27, 2012 at Victoria General Hospital after a brief illness. She was born in Hubbards, NS in 1915. Her parents were victims of the Spanish Flu and died in San Francisco in 1919. She and her sister, Charlotte Foster, became part of their Aunt Charlie's family in Winnipeg. During the war she worked as a draughts-person in New York for the Navy. She married Clayton, a pilot for the RAF, in 1944. Stationed in England, they developed a wide circle of close friends. In 1960, she returned to Winnipeg with Clayton. She volunteered for many years with Royal Winnipeg Ballet as well as Winnipeg Art Gallery.

## STAFF

### MRS. B. MYRTLE BARGERY, RLS TEACHER

Mrs. Bargery passed away on June 26, 2013 at the age of 105. After high school in Beausejour, she was employed at Rupert's Land. Following her military service, she and Alec were married in 1945 and lived in Winnipeg.

and from work each day facing changing threat levels. Sometimes team members became frustrated with the slow progress they were making on a project with their counterpart(s), and at other times they felt homesick. However, during convoys around Kabul I often saw schoolgirls in uniforms on their way to class, reminding me of the importance and value of our work.

I strongly encourage all women considering careers with the Canadian Armed Forces. Exciting opportunities for continuing education, travel, bilingualism, athleticism, professional development, leadership, and career progression cannot be overstated. Physically and mentally, my military career has taught me more about myself and my abilities than I ever imagined.

Determination, perseverance, and hard work have been the keys to my success, but I have also learned the importance of being true to myself. Yes, I am still a girly girl. Being comfortable with who you are will make you a better co-worker and leader. You can be feminine while being strong and competent. Just be yourself!



*Captain Aldous is currently Executive Assistant to the Commandant of Canadian Forces Support Unit (Ottawa) and is also completing her Master of Public Administration (Management) through Dalhousie University part-time. She will be promoted to the rank of Major this summer and posted to 4 Wing Cold Lake in Alberta as Wing Personnel Services Officer.*

# THE LAST WORD



Classrooms at Balmoral Hall School have changed greatly since the union of Rupert's Land College and Riverbend School in 1950. From our curriculum to our uniform, the differences are striking. However, some things have remained the same. Our belief that girls belong here prevails. Our shared love of learning only grows with time. Our commitment to empowering girls to pursue their dreams has never wavered.

In my role as Head of School, I am fortunate to meet alumnae often. As former students, you have many remarkable stories to share about your time here. So many of these stories involve shared experiences regardless of graduation date; an invisible bond forms, withstanding the passage of time.

Rigorous teaching prepares our students for academic success. Achievements such as post-secondary admissions and scholarships are given. Measures of professional as well as personal success are more difficult to quantify.

Our alumnae are risk-takers. Their curiosity is insatiable. With every edition of *The Portal* and each issue of *The e-Portal*, alumnae continue to inspire others with their stories.

These stories form a narrative unlike any other in establishing connections, imparting wisdom, and reflecting on challenges and triumphs. It is abundantly clear that our alumnae are not afraid to fail. We try to instill this fearlessness in the nurturing environment that is Balmoral Hall.

Try again, our teachers say.

Better luck next time, cheer our coaches.

I can do this, you tell yourselves.

Beyond any lesson plans we are able to devise, there are life lessons that may only be learned but never taught. We provide our students with countless opportunities to learn these lessons for themselves. Community service is a priority in this regard.

Earlier this year, a group of Senior School students travelled throughout Poland with Coalition for Kids International, granting wishes for terminally ill children. They relied on each other for support during some especially difficult days. When they returned, those experiences stayed with them.

A.A. Milne, beloved Winnie the Pooh author, once wrote, "You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

Our alumnae are studying and working around the world to their fullest potential. No impact is too small. With compassion, courage, and confidence they are making a difference.

That is not to say the journey is without difficulty. Progress is earned. Patience, fierce determination, and creative thinking are the hallmarks of lifelong learning.





Our alumnae are proving they can have that elusive work-life balance. Career gains, world travel, and philanthropic efforts complement satisfying lives at home. The sky is the limit.

How do I know this?

Conversations with alumnae lead me to the same conclusions time after time. What we offer as a school, as a community, and as a network is unique. It always has been, and it always will be.

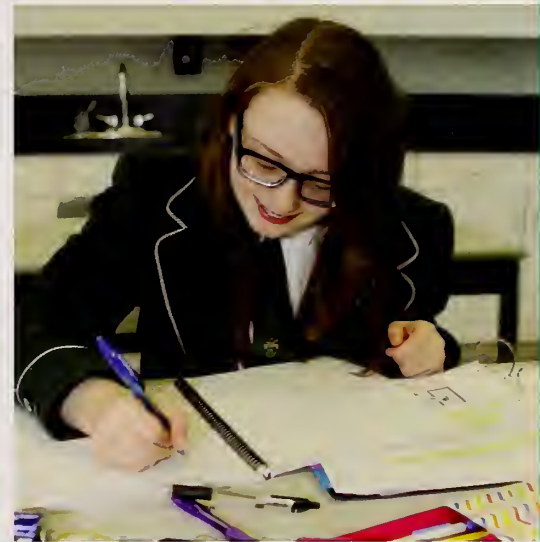
Nothing quite like Balmoral Hall School exists anywhere else. Thanks to a strong foundation and support from the BH family, alumnae seek better things. Can we measure the professional or personal success of our graduates? Absolutely not. However, we share your stories in hopes of learning from each other.

This wisdom benefits our students. You inspire them. That is worthy of celebration, always.

Together, we empower students to excel, to reach, and to lead.

*J. Kamins*

Joanne Kamins  
Head of School

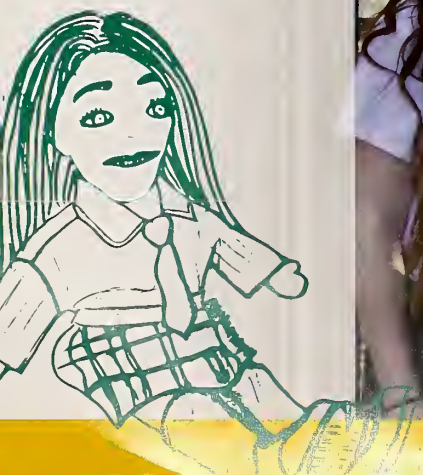




# CONGRATULATIONS TO BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL'S CLASS OF 2014!

Meet a few of our graduates. These 12 girls have the opportunity to attend a new school this fall for the first time since Junior Kindergarten, Kindergarten, or Grade 1. As lifers, they have spent their formative years in our classrooms, preparing to excel, to reach, and to lead. Now, they eagerly await post-secondary studies at universities of choice across Canada, including McGill, Carleton, Queen's, and University of British Columbia. All our best!

- Eva Downey
- Meredith Chiu
- Alanna Flom
- Claire Hughes
- Kaitlyn McIntosh
- Celina Penny
- Nadia Schriemer
- Kaitlyn Scott
- Hayley Stacey
- Brianna Turner
- Gabrielle Warren
- Julia White





# LAKE OF THE WOODS GET-TOGETHER

THURSDAY  
JULY 31, 2014

## ROYAL LAKE OF THE WOODS YACHT CLUB

COCKTAILS AND APPETIZERS AT 6:30 P.M.  
THREE-COURSE DINNER AT 7:30 P.M.

\$64 PER PERSON, PAYABLE TO RLWYC AT THE EVENT  
CASH BAR  
ALL MEMBERS OF THE BH FAMILY WELCOME!

RSVP TO BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL AT  
BHLAKEOFTHEWOODS.EVENTBRITE.CA OR (204) 784-1616.



## STAY CONNECTED!



### UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Have you recently moved, married, or changed phone numbers and/or email addresses? Perhaps you are wondering why you no longer hear from Balmoral Hall School? Help us ensure future editions of *The Portal*, *The e-Portal*, and other alumnae communications reach you. Please keep your contact information up-to-date. If in doubt, confirm yours today!

### GET INVOLVED

Our students need your support. Volunteers make a difference at panel interviews, tournaments, and community events. As mentors, you provide insight to students as they consider their career options. There is an opportunity for everyone! Contact Genevieve Cloutier '03, Alumnae Relations Coordinator, at [gcloutier@balmorallhall.net](mailto:gcloutier@balmorallhall.net) or (204) 784-1616 today.





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